Allocation of funds to North-Eastern Council

*140. SHRI KHYOMO LOTHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) when was the North Eastern Council constituted, and which are its member States.

(b) what are NEC's Objectives and work programmes;

(c) how much fund has been allocated to NEC since its inception and what were the shares of its member states, year wise, details thereof during the last two years; and

(d) what are projects undertaken so far and how many of them have been completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) The North Eastern Council was constituted on 30th December, 1971, under the North Eastern Council Act, 1971 Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura are its member States.

The North Eastern Council's objectives are (i) to help secure the balanced development of the North Eastern area, and (ii) to discuss any matter in which some or all the States are interested. The programmes of the Council relate to development of inter-State transport and communications, power development, flood control, manpower development etc.

Since the inception of the Council, Rs. 1,400.44 crores have been allocated to the North Eastern Council by the Planning Commission upto 31-3-1990 for expenditure on its schemes projects. The funds are not allocated State-wise.

Since its inception, the Council has taken up a large number of schemes in the North Eastern area. During the Seventh Five Year Plan 240 schemes were taken up out of which 154 schemes have been completed.

Fall in foreign investments

@704. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of fall in foreign investments in the country at the end of 1990 as compared to that in 1989;

(b) what are the names of the countries from which the investments have declined showing percentage of decline in each case;

(c) what are the reasons therefor;

(d) what is the overall impact of the decline in the foreign investments on the various projects; and

(e) what steps Governmetn have taken or propose to take to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) and (b) A Statement is attached. [*See* Appendix CL VIII, **Annexure No. 18**]

(c) The number of foreign collaborations approved with foreign investment was the same in 1990 as in 1989, being 194 in each year. The sharp increase in the quantum of foreign investment approved in 1989 was due to one mega project. Other reasons for the fall in the amount of foreign investment approved in 1990 could be external factors like global economic, situation, Gulf crisis, etc.

(d) and (e) No adverse impact is foreseen in the flow of foreign investment to approved projects.

@Previously Unstarred Question 472, transferred from the 28th February, 1991.